

BSG:AML

DJ No. 90-11-3-1620/2

U.S. Department of Justice

Environment and Natural Resources Division

Environmental Enforcement Section

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November 14, 2002

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Clerk's Office United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio Rm. 324 Potter Stewart Courthouse 100 E, 5th St. Cincinnati, OH 45202



Re:

Dow Chemical, et al. v. Acme Wrecking et al.

Dow Chemical, et al. v. Sun Oil Co., et al.

United States v. Aeronca, Inc. et al.

Consolidated Civil Action Nos. C-1-97-0307; C-1-97-0308; C-1-01-439

Dear Clerk:

Enclosed for filing please find the original and two copies of a Joint Motion of the United States of America, Contribution Plaintiffs, and Defendant Whitton Container, Inc. to Continue to Stay all Discovery Deadlines as to Defendant Whitton Container, Inc. until February 1, 2003. If you could please return one filed-stamped copy of each document in the enclosed, self-addressed, stamped envelope, I would appreciate it.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Annette M. Lang

Trial Attorney

cc:

All Counsel on the Service List

Craig Melodia

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO WESTERN DIVISION

THE DOW CHEMICAL CO., et al.,	
Plaintiff,	
v.) ACME WRECKING CO., INC., et al.,)	Civil Action Nos. C-1-97-0307; C-1-97-0308; C-1-01-439 (Consolidated Actions)
Defendants.	(======================================
THE DOW CHEMICAL CO., et al.,	Judge Weber
Plaintiffs,)	
v.) SUN OIL COMPANY, et al.)	JOINT MOTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CONTRIBUTION PLAINTIFFS, AND DEFENDANT WHITTON CONTAINER, INC. TO CONTINUE
Defendants.)	TO STAY ALL DISCOVERY DEADLINES AS TO DEFENDANT WHITTON
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	CONTAINER, INC. UNTIL FEBRUARY 1, 2003
Plaintiff,)	
v.)	MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT
AERONCA, INC., et al.,	ATTACHED HERETO
Defendants.)	

Plaintiff the United States of America ("United States"), Contribution Plaintiffs ("Contribution Plaintiffs"), and Defendant Whitton Container, Inc. ("Whitton") bring this Joint Motion before the Court requesting a continuation of the stay of all discovery as to Whitton. On August 15, 2002, this Court granted the parties' Joint Motion to Stay all discovery until December 1, 2002. For the reasons set forth in the accompanying Memorandum in Support, the

United States, the Contribution Plaintiffs, and Whitton all agree that continuing the stay for another two months pending ongoing settlement negotiations is justified.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette M. Lang

United States Department of Justice

P.O. Box 7611

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO WESTERN DIVISION

THE DOW CHEMICAL CO., et al.,)
Plaintiff,))
v. ACME WRECKING CO., INC., et al.,) Civil Action Nos.) C-1-97-0307; C-1-97-0308; C-1-01-439) (Consolidated Actions)
Defendants.))
THE DOW CHEMICAL CO., et al.,	
Plaintiffs,)
v. SUN OIL COMPANY, et al.	 JOINT MEMORANDUM OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CONTRIBUTION PLAINTIFFS, AND DEFENDANT WHITTON CONTAINER, INC. TO CONTINUE
Defendants.) TO STAY ALL) DISCOVERY DEADLINES AS TO) DEFENDANT WHITTON
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	ONTAINER, INC. UNTIL FEBRUARY 1, 2003
Plaintiff,	
v.)
AERONCA, INC., et al.,)
Defendants.)))

Defendant Whitton Container, Inc. ("Whitton") is a construction and demolition debris hauler in the Greater Cincinnati market. The United States and the Contribution Plaintiffs allege that Whitton transported hazardous substances to the Skinner Landfill, and accordingly is responsible for the response costs incurred at the Skinner Landfill, which is the subject matter of this litigation.

Whitton admits to having transported material to the Skinner landfill, but denies that it transported hazardous substances resulting in response costs to either the United States or to the Contribution Plaintiffs in this case.

The United States, the Contribution Plaintiffs, and Whitton (the "Parties to this Motion") have entered into settlement negotiations to settle this matter. These discussions started over six months ago and have been ongoing because they involve Whitton's claim of a "limited ability to pay" the demand made by the United States and the Contribution Plaintiffs. The Parties to this Motion jointly agree that settling this matter and avoiding the costs associated with litigation is the appropriate course of action given the issues raised by Whitton's claim of a limited ability to pay. This Court previously granted a Joint Motion to Stay Discovery as to Whitton until December 1, 2002. At the time of that Joint Motion, it appeared that an additional three months would be sufficient to come to a resolution of this matter. It now appears, however, that an additional two months is necessary. In the event that the Parties to this Motion are unable to come to a settlement agreement, the United States and the Contribution Plaintiffs will seek to restart discovery as to Whitton on February 1, 2003. By no later than January 15, 2003, the Parties to this Motion will file a revised discovery schedule as to Whitton if settlement negotiations fall through. Because no trial date in this action has been set, the Parties to this Motion anticipate that such a revised discovery schedule will not interfere with the progress of this case.

Accordingly, the United States of America, the Contribution Plaintiffs, and Whitton

respectfully request that the Court grant this Joint Motion extending the discovery deadline until February 1, 2003, by signing the proposed Order attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette M. Lang

United States Department of Justice

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO WESTERN DIVISION

THE DOW CHEMICAL CO., et al.,))
Plaintiff,))
v.) Civil Action Nos.) C-1-97-0307; C-1-97-0308; C-1-01-439
ACME WRECKING CO., INC., et al.,) (Consolidated Actions)
Defendants.))
THE DOW CHEMICAL CO., et al.,) Judge Weber
Plaintiffs,))
v.)
SUN OIL COMPANY, et al.)))
Defendants.))
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)
Plaintiff,))
v.))
AERONCA, INC., et al.,))
Defendants.)))

ORDER

This Court, having duly considered the Joint Motion of the United States, the Contribution Plaintiffs, and Whitton Container, Inc. to Stay all Discovery Deadlines as to Defendant Whitton Container, Inc, until February 1, 2003, ("Joint Motion") finds good cause for such Joint Motion and hereby Orders as follows:

- 1. The Joint Motion is GRANTED;
- 2. Discovery as to Defendant Whitton Container, Inc. is hereby stayed until February 1, 2003, pending settlement negotiations;
- 3. If the United States, the Contribution Plaintiffs, and Defendant Whitton
 Container, Inc. do not achieve a settlement by January 15, 2003, then, on that day, those parties shall file a revised discovery schedule with this Court.

So ORDERED this	day of	2002.	
		Judge Weber	
		United States District Judge	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 14th day of November 2002, I caused a true copy of the foregoing JOINT MOTION OF THE UNITED STATES, THE CONTRIBUTION PLAINTIFFS, DEFENDANT WHITTON CONTAINER, INC. TO CONTINUE TO STAY ALL DISCOVERY DEADLINES AS TO DEFENDANT WHITTON CONTAINER, INC. UNTIL FEBRUARY 1, 2003, to be served by first-class mail, postage prepaid upon the following counsel of record:

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